1 2 3 4 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 5 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE 6 7 ROBERT McBRIDE. CASE NO. C16-0601 RSM 8 Plaintiff, 9 MINUTE ORDER DIRECTING ADDITIONAL FILING OF 10 v. **DOCUMENTATION** 11 NANCY A. BERRYHILL, Acting Commissioner of Social Security, 12 13 Defendant. 14 The following MINUTE ORDER is made by direction of the Court, the Honorable 15 Ricardo S. Martinez, Chief United States District Judge: 16 Plaintiff has moved for an award of attorney's fees in this matter, which the government 17 does not oppose. Dkts. #19 and #20. However, the Supreme Court has specifically held that "a 18 19 § 2412(d) fees award is payable to the litigant" as a prevailing party, rather than to the litigant's 20 attorney. Astrue v. Ratliff, 560 U.S. 586, 589, 130 S.Ct. 2521, 2524 (2010). Because Plaintiff 21 requests that the attorney fees be paid directly to his counsel (Dkt. #19-3 at 1), a document 22 authorizing assignment of the fee to Plaintiff's counsel is required. Accordingly, Plaintiff is 23 required to file the requisite documentation of any fee agreement before the Court will issue an 24 25 Order awarding fees. 26 27 28

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DATED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August 2017.

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By: <u>/s/ Rhonda Stiles</u> Deputy Clerk